

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IN US

SUBJECT: G K REDDY ON BETTER RAPPORT WITH U.S.

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI FROM MADRAS NOV 24

REPEATED:

QUOTE

MADRAS 2084

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: G.K. REDDY ON BETTER RAPPORT WITH U.S.

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF G.K. REDDY ARTICLE TITLED:

"BETTER RAPPORT WITH U.S. NEEDED" APPEARING IN

NOVEMBER 24 HINDU.

QUOTE.

THE REPORTED ASSURANCE OF THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE,

DR. HENRY KISSINGER, TO THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, MR. J.S.

MEHTA, AT THEIR MEETING IN WASHINGTON YESTERDAY, THAT

THE FORD ADMINISTRATION INTENDS TO LEAVE THE FINAL

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DECISION ON THE PROPOSED SALE OF 110 A-7 BOMBERS TO PAKISTAN

TO THE PRESIDENT-ELECT, MR. JIMMY CARTER, ONLY MEANS THAT WITHOUT HIS CONCURRENCE IT WOULD NOT GO AHEAD WITH THE DEAL DURING THE PRESENT INTERREGNUM.

IF MR. CARTER FEELS THAT HE HAS TO HAVE HIS STAND ON THE QUESTION OF ARMS SALES STUDIED IN GREATER DEPTH AFTER HIS ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE, THE DECISION ON THE PENTAGON RECOMMENDATION TO SELL THESE BOMBERS TO PAKISTAN MIGHT BE PUT OFF UNTIL THE NEW ADMINISTRATION HAS COME TO GRIPS WITH THE PROBLEM IN ITS GLOBAL CONTEXT.

BUT THERE IS NO POLITICAL OR CONSTITUTIONAL IMPROPRIETY UNDER THE AMERICAN SYSTEM IN A PRESIDENT-ELECT APPROVING A TRANSACTION OF THIS NATURE IN THE NAME OF CONTINUITY IN THE CONDUCT OF THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN RELATIONS, IF HE IS SATISFIED WITH THE CONTENTION OF THE OUTGOING ADMINISTRATION THAT, IN IMPOSING THE PRE-CONDITION THAT PAKISTAN SHOULD FIRST ABANDON THE IDEA OF PURCHASING A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT FROM FRANCE, THE U.S. IS ACTUALLY SEEKING TO ACHIEVE THE LARGER OBJECTIVE OF ESTABLISHING A HEALTHY PRECEDENT FOR EXERTING SUCH PRESSURES TO PREVENT NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. THE MERE FACT THAT HE MIGHT PREFER TO LEAVE THE ISSUE OPEN FOR THE PRESENT DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT MR. CARTER IS NOT IMPRESSED BY THE FORD-KISSINGER THINKING ON THE SUBJECT ALTHOUGH MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON HOW THE PROBLEM IS POSED DURING THE TRANSITION.

U.S. PROCEDURES MAY NOT BE HELPFUL

THERE IS BOUND TO BE SOME DELAY IN OBTAINING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL EVEN IF MR. CARTER AGREES WITH THE APPROACH OF THE FORD ADMINISTRATION TO THE PROPOSED SALE OF THESE BOMBERS TO PAKISTAN. BUT IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO RELY TOO MUCH ON THE BUILT-IN CHECKS AND BALANCES OF THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES TO SERVE AS AN EFFECTIVE CONSTRAINT ON THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IF IT HAS MADE UP ITS MIND TO PURSUE A PARTICULAR POLICY LINE. THE NORMAL PROCEDURE FOR THE CLEARANCE OF ARMS SALES IS THAT AFTER THE PENTAGON HAS RECOMMENDED THE SALE, THE STATE DEPARTMENT FORWARDS THE PROPOSAL TO THE PRESIDENT WITH ITS OWN SUGGESTIONS. THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PRESIDENT CONSULTS THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL BEFORE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSACTION. THE WHITE HOUSE DECISION IS THEN FORWARDED TO CONGRESS AND IT WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN APPROVED IF NO MOTION IS TABLED IN EITHER HOUSE WITHIN 30 DAYS OPPOSING THE SALE.

ONCE THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAS AUTHORIZED AN ARMS SALE, IT WILL NOT BE EASY FOR ANY GROUP TO MUSTER THE REQUISITE

SUPPORT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE TO REFUSE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL, SINCE THE VOTING IN SUCH CASES DOES NOT TAKE PLACE ON PARTY LINES. THE WHITE HOUSE IS GENERALLY ABLE TO GET SUCH PROPOSALS THROUGH CONGRESS BY TREATING THEM AS PART OF THE HORSE-TRADING THAT IS DONE BY CONGRESSMEN TO SECURE SUPPORT FOR THE VARIOUS BILLS TABLED BY THEM IN PURSUIT OF THEIR LOCAL COMMITMENTS.

IF IT HAS TO DRIVE HOME THE POINT THAT THE SALE OF THESE BOMBERS TO PAKISTAN AT THIS TIME WOULD NOT ONLY SET OFF A NEW ARMS RACE IN THE SUBCONTINENT BUT ALSO IMPEDE THE PROCESSES OF INDO-PAK. RECONCILIATION, INDIA WILL HAVE TO MAKE A RENEWED EFFORT TO IMPROVE ITS OWN RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. THERE IS NEED FOR GREATER TOLERANCE AND REALISM ON BOTH SIDES IN UNDERSTANDING EACH OTHER'S POLICIES AND ACTIONS. THE ELECTION OF MR. CARTER CERTAINLY HOLDS OUT THE PROMISE OF BETTER RELATIONS, BUT ONE SHOULD NOT ALSO JUMP TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE NEW DEMOCRATIC ADMINISTRATION WILL BE MORE SYMPATHETIC TOWARDS INDIA THAN THE OUTGOING REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS BEEN OPENLY UNFRIENDLY AT TIMES.

A CONCERTED ATTEMPT IS, THEREFORE, BEING MADE WITHOUT ANY PUBLICITY TO CLEAR UP THE MISTS OF MISUNDERSTANDING AND ESTABLISH A GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. THE U.S. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOUTH ASIAN AFFAIRS, MR. ADOLPH DUBS, WHO IS NOW ON A VISIT TO DELHI IN THE COURSE OF A PERIODIC TRIP TO THE AREA, IS MEETING A NUMBER OF SENIOR OFFICIALS TO ASCERTAIN THE INDIAN VIEWS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. THE PRESIDENT OF THE PRESTIGIOUS ASIA SOCIETY IN NEW YORK, MR. PHILLIPS TALBOT, WHO SERVED AS AN UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION, IS ALSO ON A VISIT TO INDIA ON A SIMILAR FACT-FINDING MISSION. HE IS MEETING SEVERAL MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS TO GET AN IDEA OF INDIA'S PERFORMANCE IN DIFFERENT FIELDS SINCE THE EMERGENCY. A NUMBER OF INFLUENTIAL CONGRESSMEN ALSO ARE EXPECTED TO COME TO INDIA IN THE COURSE OF THEIR ROUND THE WORLD TRIPS TO RENEW OLD CONTACTS AND GET A BIRD'S EYE-VIEW OF THE POST-EMERGENCY SCENE.

NEED TO IMPRESS INFLUENTIAL AMERICANS

THERE CAN BE NO HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS WITH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION UNTIL HE HAS NAMED THE KEY FIGURES OF HIS CABINET. BUT THERE IS ENOUGH SCOPE DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD TO CREATE A BETTER AWARENESS OF INDIA'S ACHIEVEMENTS AND

ASPIRATIONS EVEN AMONG THE LIBERAL ELEMENTS WHO HAVE BEEN
CRITICAL OF SOME OF ITS ACTIONS. THE MAIN TASK IS TO
CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF GREATER REALISM IN WHICH INFLUENTIAL
AMERICANS, WHETHER IN THE GOVERNMENT OR OUTSIDE IT, CAN
FEEL ENCOURAGED TO TAKE A LESS INTOLERANT LOOK AT THE PRESENT
INDIAN SCENE AND DEVELOP A NEW IDENTITY OF INTEREST OR
EMOTIONAL ASSOCIATION IN COOPERATING WITH THIS COUNTRY
IN ITS ENDEAVORS FOR ORDERLY PROGRESS AND SOCIAL
JUSTICE.

SO INDIA HAS BEEN REACTING TO THE PROPOSED SALE OF
BOMBERS TO PAKISTAN WITH GREATER COMPREHENSION OF THE
COMPLEXITIES OF THE MANY FACTORS INVOLVED IN THE LATEST
INDO-AMERICAN MOVES FOR BETTER RELATIONS. ONE OF THE
ADVANTAGES OF THE EMERGENCY HAS BEEN THAT THE POLICY-MAKERS
IN THE GOVERNMENT ARE NO LONGER UNDER UNDUE DOMESTIC
POLITICAL PRESSURES TO ADOPT RIGID PUBLIC POSTURES IN THE
CONDUCT OF THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN RELATIONS. AND IT IS NOT
WITHOUT SIGNIFICANCE THAT, IN THE MIDST OF THE VARIOUS
MOVES UNDER WAY FOR ESTABLISHING A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL
RAPPORT WITH THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION, THERE WAS HARDLY
ANY MENTION OF THE LATEST U.S. MOVE TO SELL BOMBERS TO
PAKISTAN IN THE SPEECHES OF THE TOP LEADERS AT THE
GAUHATI SESSION. UNQUOTE. MCCASKILL

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